GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:414
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
MODERNISATION OF TANNERIES
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tanneries operating in the country as on 31 December, 1999 with break-up of production capacity, actual production, number of employees engaged therein, State-wise,

(b) the major problems being faced by tannery industry;

(c) the details of steps taken to resolve these problems;

(d) the detail of modernisation programme proposed/undertaken and investment made/proposed to keep face with global trends, and

(e) the details of action taken on Murthy Committee Report?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (COMMERCE & INDUSTRY) DR. RAMAN SINGH

a) As per the information available with the Central Leather Research Institute, the total number of tanneries in the country as on 31.12.99 was 2091. The annual production of finished leather in India is around 1800 million sq. feet comprising 40 million pieces of hides and 110 million pieces of skin. The estimated employment in the organized sector tanneries is as under:

Tamil Nadu	36719
Uttar Pradesh	16926
West Bengal	8403
Punjab	1942
Andhra Pradesh	1906
Maharashtra	1114
Karnataka	1026
Others	4364
Total	72400

b) The major problems being faced by the tanning industry, particularly in the small scale sector, include limited resources and access to capital, inabililty to convert indigenous raw materials into finished leathers of specific quality, low levels of productivity and inconsistency in quality due to obsolete and limited infrastructure.

c) The Government has taken the following steps for modernization of tanneries under the National Leather Development Programme, the Indian Leather Development Programme and the Leather Technology Mission:

i) Technological Upgradation of decentralized tanneries.

ii) Initiating steps by the industry to combat the problem of tannery effluents.

iii) Establishment of common effluent treatment plants in major tanning clusters and individual treatment plants by the tanners themselves.

iv) Financial assistance for modernization of tanneries.

d) The Government has launched a Tannery Modernisation Scheme with effect from 18.1.2000 for providing the much needed financial assistance to tanneries for upgrading their technology and improving their capacity utilization. The total outlay envisaged

under this Scheme is Rs. 40.75 crore, including Government assistance of Rs. 9.65 crore.

e) Action on the following points of the Report of the Murthy Committee has been taken:

i) Launching of Tannery Modernisation Scheme for helping the tanneries to achieve technological Upgradation, environmentally cleaner technologies, process control and automation.

ii) Reduction of import duties on capital goods, components and consumables.

iii) Deputation of trade delegations to the importing countries to assess the export potential for Indian Leather and allied products and explore new markets.

iv) Augmentation of the domestic availability of raw materials.